

# County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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## **MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS:** **CONFRONTING BALTIMORE COUNTY'S OPIOID EPIDEMIC**

In 2018, more than 300 people died from fatal overdose in Baltimore County—and the vast majority of deaths were related to opioids. In fact, Baltimore County has consistently had the second highest number of overdose deaths in the state.

The County Executive has established a working group of experts who will gather information and make recommendations for how the county can strategically address this crisis. Additionally, the county has stepped up awareness of resources available to residents. A detailed list can be found here:

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/health/healthservices/substanceuse/index.html>. As an example, Baltimore County residents may receive a free substance use screening and referral at the walk-in clinic at the Eastern Family Resource Center.

In August, Baltimore County unveiled five signs that will be erected throughout the county to track overdose statistics. I worked with County Executive Olszewski to break a bureaucratic logjam that was blocking the



erection of these signs. The [Daniel Carl Torsch Foundation](#) arranged for sponsorships to pay for them.

I encourage you to learn more about this foundation and the work being done to eliminate substance abuse of all kinds. The [Maryland Department of Health partners with local governments on a statewide response](#).

## **ROADSIDE IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED NEAR ROSSVILLE BOULEVARD AND BELAIR ROAD**

Working with Baltimore County, the Overlea-Fullerton Business and Professional Association constructed a seating area at the bus station near Belair Road and Rossville Boulevard. Dan Trupia from Advantage Landscaping who designed and implemented the project. The Maryland State Highway Administration is preparing for a resurfacing of this corridor.



## LONG-VACATED SITE TO BE FILLED ON PROVIDENCE ROAD

Royal Farms will return to its former location on Providence Road near Campus Hills. The site has been vacant for more than three years.

## DIGITAL SPEED SIGN TO BE TESTED ON REGESTER AVENUE

Earlier this year, [Councilman Marks and County Executive Olszewski announced a pilot program](#) to test the effectiveness of digital speed signs. These are used by many local governments to lower traffic along corridors where speed bumps are impractical. The first sign will be deployed along the 600 block of Regester Avenue around September 16<sup>th</sup>. Measurements will be taken of the speeds before and after installation.



## TRAFFIC CALMING TO BE INSTALLED ON KLAUSMIER AND MANORFIELD ROADS

This September, Baltimore County will install a speed bump near the Manorfield Road/Heathrow Manor Road intersection.

Six speed bumps will also be built on Klausmier Road. [Traffic calming along Klausmier Road was a recommendation of a task force that Councilman Marks created to address mobility in this area.](#) All three of the recommendations are being implemented. In addition to traffic calming, the new county budget

includes funding to expand the parking lot at Gunpowder Elementary School next summer. The Maryland State Highway Administration has approved a traffic light at Klausmier and Belair Roads.

To apply for the traffic calming program, visit [https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/publicworks/traffic/traffic\\_calming.html](https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/publicworks/traffic/traffic_calming.html).

## COMPREHENSIVE ZONING MAP PROCESS BEGINS THIS FALL

Every property in Baltimore County has a zoning designation—a classification that identifies how the land can be used and developed. Every four years, propertyowners, community associations, and other parties can request a zoning change. Changes are reviewed first by the Planning Board, then by the County Council, with a final vote in the summer of 2020. To learn more, visit the following Web Site: <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/czmp/index.html>.

## COUNCILMAN MARKS SPONSORS LEGISLATION ON OPEN SPACE, WATER SYSTEM

Councilman Marks has been the lead sponsor or cosponsor of several pieces of legislation over the past two months. An updated list of all bills can be found at [www.baltimorecountymd.gov](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov).

- Bill 37-19 eliminates a loophole that reduced the amount of public open space generated from developments.
- Resolution 82-19 supports the creation of a regional water authority, replacing the archaic system in which Baltimore City has most responsibility over water financing and repairs.
- Resolution 92-19 allows for longer review of proposed legislation, which will give citizens greater input over a pending bill.